AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 4, 5, 9, 11, and 18 as follows. Please cancel claims 1-3, 6-8, 10, 12-17, and 20.This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

Claims 1-3 (canceled).

Claim 4 (currently amended): ~~The method of claim 3~~ A method for monitoring pain of a patient, said method comprising:

a) providing a patient communication device;

b) providing a data processor capable of communicating with the patient communication device;

c) delivering a pain questionnaire to the patient at each of a series of time points using the patient communication device to generate pain questionnaire results;

d) communicating the pain questionnaire results to the data processor;

e) processing the pain questionnaire results using the data processor, thereby monitoring the pain of a patient; and

f) triggering an effector function based on the processed pain questionnaire results, wherein the effector function is selected from the group consisting of ~~administering pain medication using a patient controlled analgesia controller, creating an output signal,~~ gaining attention of medical personnel [[,]] and signaling that patient attention is required~~, and signaling a patient~~.

Claim 5 (currently amended): ~~The method of claim 3~~ A method for monitoring pain of a patient, said method comprising:

a) providing a patient communication device;

b) providing a data processor capable of communicating with the patient communication device;

c) delivering a pain questionnaire to the patient at each of a series of time points using the patient communication device to generate pain questionnaire results;

d) communicating the pain questionnaire results to the data processor;

e) processing the pain questionnaire results using the data processor, thereby monitoring the pain of a patient; and

f) triggering an effector function based on the processed pain questionnaire results, wherein the effector function is administering pain medication using a patient controlled analgesia controller.

Claims 6-8 (canceled).

Claim 9 (previously presented): A method for monitoring pain of a patient, said method comprising:

a) providing a patient communication device;

b) providing a data processor capable of communicating with the patient communication device;

c) delivering a pain questionnaire to the patient at each of a series of time points using the patient communication device to generate pain questionnaire results;

d) communicating the pain questionnaire results to the data processor; and

e) processing the pain questionnaire results using the data processor, thereby monitoring the pain of a patient,

wherein the pain questionnaire comprises a Visual Pain Analog Scale, a Visual Mood Analog Scale, a Pain Severity Scale and a Pain Relief Scale.

Claim 10 (cancelled).

Claim 11 (currently amended): ~~The~~ A method ~~of claim 1,~~ for monitoring pain of a patient, said method comprising:

a) providing a patient communication device, wherein the patient communication device includes a heat beam dolorimeter;

b) providing a data processor capable of communicating with the patient communication device;

c) delivering a pain questionnaire to the patient at each of a series of time points using the patient communication device to generate pain questionnaire results;

d) communicating the pain questionnaire results to the data processor; and

e) processing the pain questionnaire results using the data processor, thereby monitoring the pain of a patient.

Claims 12-17 (canceled).

Claim 18 (currently amended): ~~The~~ A patient pain management system ~~of claim 12,~~ comprising:

a) a patient communication device comprising a patient device microprocessor effective for executing a pain questionnaire software application,

wherein the patient communication devise includes a heat beam dolorimeter; and

b) a data processor effective for automatically communicating with the patient communication device.

Claim 19 (original): The system of claim 18, wherein the heat beam dolorimeter utilizes a sonar ranging sensor.

Claim 20 (canceled).